Fall in Production of essential drugs

3786. CHOWDHARY RAM SEWAK:
SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR SAHU:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to refer to the answer to Unstarred Question No. 1321 given in the Rajya Sabha on 5-12-1991 and state:

(a) whether production of 57 out of 90 essential drugs for which production is monitored has fallen in 1990-91 as compared to 1989-90.

(b) in how many cases the fall is attributable to uneconomic prices and what are the names of such drugs;

(c) in how many cases the fall in production is on account of availability of better, more potent and safer drugs and what are the names of such drugs alongwith names of their potent substitutes;

(d) whether it is a fact that production statistics maintained by Government is itself wrong, incomplete, baseless and duplication of effort;

(e) whether it is a fact that the same data is maintained by DGTD and is also contained in other documents; and

(f) if so, what is the need of keeping manpower of three officers and other staff members?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI CHINTA MOHAN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) The reasons for fall in production would be attributed to one or a combination of factors like economic viability, drug obsolescene, fall in market demand due to introduction of better or more potent and safer drugs, corporate plans of the unit etc.

(d) No, Sir. The data is being maintained on a selective basis, keeping in view the administrative constraints, on the basis of the production returns furnished by companies in the organised sector.

(e) and (f) The data has to be readily available for smooth day-to-day working of the Department including for answering Parliament Questions and for working out future plans keeping in view emerging trends.

Latest Drugs included in local patent Forms

3787. SHRI CHIMANBHAI MEHTA:
SHRIMATI MIRA DAS:
SHRI SARADA MOHANTY:
SHRI SOM PAL:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact latest drugs invented and produced in developed countries are inducted in India in local patent form after the passage of few years;

(b) which are the latest life saving and psychotherapy drugs invented and produced in developed countries but yet to be manufactured in India; and

(c) whether the research in drugs is intense and result oriented?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI CHINTA MOHAN): (a) Yes, Sir. As per the present provisions of Indian Patents Act, 1970, some drugs covered by product patents abroad are introduced in India.

(b) This is not being monitored in this Ministry.

(c) The original research in the development of drugs is a time consuming and difficult task and also involves huge expenditure.

Indian drugs

3788. SHRI SOM PAL :
SHRI CHIMANBHAI MEHTA :
SHRIMATI MIRA DAS :
SHRI SARADA MOHANTY :

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that Indian drugs are the cheapest in the world, if so, what is the price of Indian life saving drugs comparable with developed countries including U.S.A.;

(b) whether it is a fact late Shrimati Indira Gandhi and late Shri Rajiv Gandhi opposed patenting in drugs plants and seeds, if so, the details in this regard; and